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Claims

- 1. Process for the depolymerization of glycosaminoglycanes to obtain depolymerised glycosaminoglycanes having a $M_{\rm w}$ equal to or lower than 50% of the original Mw prior to depolymerization, characterized by the use of UV radiation having a peak in the range from 245 nm to 260 nm
- 2. Process according to claim 1 wherein the source of UV radiation is a medium or low pressure Hg lamp.
- 3. Process according to claims 1-2 wherein the UV radiation has a prevalent emission band at 253 nm.
- 4. Process according to claims 1-3 wherein the glycosaminoglycane is heparin.
 - 5. Process according to claims 1-3 wherein the glycosaminoglycane is dermatansulphate.
 - 6. Process according to claims 1-5 wherein the solution subjected to depolymerization is kept at a temperature comprised between 0 and 70 °C.
- 7. Depolymerized glycosaminoglycane obtainable according to the process of claims 1-6